

IN THE CLAIMS

Please amend the claims as follows:

Claims 1-12 (Cancelled).

13. (Currently Amended) A powder atomizer for coating workpieces with a powder coating material comprising:

a bell defining a paint channel for delivering powder paint to the workpieces being coated;

a paint tube having an outer surface and being fluidly connected between a source of powder paint and said paint channel thereby providing powder paint to said paint channel; and

13² a hollow shaft concentrically aligned with said paint tube defining an air channel ~~therebetween~~ with said outer surface of said tube, wherein said air channel is fluidly connected between a source of pressurized air and said paint channel defined by said bell thereby providing pressurized air to said channel.

14. (Previously Presented) An atomizer as set forth in claim 13, comprising a hub disposed between said hollow shaft and said bell and defining an annular opening for channeling air from said air channel to said paint channel.

15. (Previously Presented) An atomizer as set forth in claim 14, wherein said annular opening defines a different volume than a volume defined by said air channel thereby adjusting the pressure of the pressurized air provided to said paint channel through said air channel.

16. (Previously Presented) An atomizer as set forth in claim 13, wherein said tube is concentrically aligned within said hollow shaft.

17. (Previously Presented) An atomizer as set forth in claim 13, wherein said paint channel is defined between an external part and a internal part.

18. (Previously Presented) An atomizer as set forth in claim 17, wherein said external part defines an outer conical surface.

19. (Previously Presented) An atomizer as set forth in claim 18, comprising a guidance air ring directing pressurized air toward said conical surface of said external part.

20. (Currently Amended) A paint feed tube for providing paint to a paint atomizer, comprising:

a first annular wall having an outer surface and a second annular wall having an inner surface, and being concentrically aligned with said first annular wall, said first annular wall defining a paint pipe to provide paint to the paint atomizer and ~~said second annular wall~~ said outer surface of said first annular wall defining an air channel with said ~~first annular wall~~ inner surface of said second annular wall for providing pressurized air to the paint atomizer.

B² 21. (Previously Presented) A paint feed tube as set forth in claim 20, wherein said paint feed tube comprises a distal end disposed adjacent the paint atomizer.

22. (Previously Presented) A paint feed tube as set forth in claim 21, comprising hub disposed between said first annular wall and a second annular wall and defining an annular opening with said first annular wall.

23. (Previously Presented) A paint feed tube as set forth in claim 22, wherein said air channel defines a first volume and said annular opening defines a second volume different from said first volume thereby adjusting the pressure of the pressurized air provided to the paint atomizer.

24. (Previously Presented) A paint tube as set forth in claim 23, wherein said first volume is greater than said second volume thereby increasing the pressure of the pressurized air being provided to the paint atomizer.

Claims 25-28. (Cancelled).

29. (New) A powder atomizer for coating work pieces with a powder coating material comprising:

a bell defining a paint channel for delivering powder paint to the work pieces being coated;

a tube fluidly connected between a source of powder paint and said paint channel thereby providing powder paint to said paint channel;

a hollow shaft concentrically aligned with said tube defining an air channel therebetween, wherein said air channel is fluidly connected between a source of pressurized air and said paint channel defined by said bell thereby providing pressurized air to said channel; and

B2 wherein said annular opening defines a different volume than a volume defined by said air channel thereby adjusting the pressure of the pressurized air provided to said paint channel through said air channel.

30. (New) A paint feed tube for providing paint to a paint atomizer, comprising:

a first annular wall and a second annular wall concentrically aligned with said first annular wall, said first annular wall defining a paint pipe to provide paint to the paint atomizer and said second annular wall providing an air channel with said first annular wall for providing pressurized air to the paint atomizer; and

wherein said air channel defines a first volume and said annular opening defines a second volume different from said first volume thereby adjusting the pressure of the pressurized air provided to the paint atomizer.